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All Moscow Marines Said to Face Polygraph Test

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MOSCOW, March 31 — The 28 Marine guards at the American Embassy here have been told that they will be asked to take polygraph tests after their return to the United States, according to an American close to the contingent.

The marines are being recalled in the wake of an espionage case in which three former members of the contingent have now been implicated. The others were reportedly told that anyone who declined to submit to the polygraph test would be transferred to regular Marine duty.

The State Department, in announcing Monday that the entire present contingent was being replaced, said that none of its present members had been implicated in the espionage case.

The three former embassy guards who figure in the case are Sgt. Clayton J. Lonetree and Cpl. Arnold Bracy, who had been accused of allowing Soviet agents access to the embassy, and Staff Sgt. Robert S. Stufflebeam, who was arrested today on charges of failing to report contacts with Soviet women while he was on duty here.

Richard Combs Jr., the chargé d'affaires, refused to comment on the prospect of polygraph testing.

The marines were reportedly told that they would be asked what they knew of any illegal activities, including black market dealings and bringing women into the Marine compound.

The prospect of the tests, announced to the marines in a meeting on Monday, was greeted bitterly by the demoralized contingent, according to the American who is friendly with the marines.

Some marines told friends they feared the tests would force them to report second-hand knowledge about black-market currency operations, and their careers could be damaged for not reporting this earlier.

Several marines have been sent home in recent months for changing dollars illegally.

Since the spy case became public, the embassy has reportedly kept a close watch on the marines, and has begun enforcing a policy, long treated casually, that the marines may not go into town without being accompanied by another embassy employee.

"With the restrictions imposed now, I cannot even go to church alone," a marine said.

'Not Treated Like Humans'

Another was quoted as having said, "The Moscow embassy is the second biggest in the world, and I know how important it is, but, man, they don't treat us like humans."

Diplomats at other Western embassies said they had long favored the assignment of married security personnel to embassy duty to reduce the risk of compromising situations like the one that the marines say lured Sergeant Lonetree into espionage. He and Sergeant Bracy were said to have become

involved with Soviet women on the embassy staff.

Diplomats said the embassies of Britain, France, Italy and Canada all employed security guards who are older than the American marines, and almost always married. Unmarried men are not eligible to serve in the Moscow embassies of some governments.

"Obviously, we want to be sure they don't have the need to look around for women here in Moscow," a Western European diplomat said.

The Marine guard service requires that its members be single so that the Government can save the cost of supporting families overseas, and men can be transferred to other posts on short notice.

Arthur A. Hartman, the departing Ambassador, said Monday that he favored replacing the young, unmarried marines with more mature security personnel.

However, allowing security guards to bring families would pose another problem for the embassy. The Marine guards live in tiny rooms in the embassy compound — the guards refer to them as "closets" — that are designed for single residents.

Those who know the marines say that many of them are lonely, and thus tempted to ignore warnings against fraternizing with Russians.

One Western diplomat suggested that the United States might be creating a entire new pool of vulnerable em-

ployees by bringing in American drivers, language instructors, messengers and custodial workers to replace Soviet employees withdrawn by the Soviet Government last year.

Many of the new employees, who are being recruited by a California company, Pacific Architects and Engineers, are expected to be young and single.

Russian Would Amend Saying

Gennadi I. Gerasimov, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, made light of the Marine case in discussing it at a briefing today.

"We can only smile at what is being said about this story," he said. "It is very funny. Twenty-eight strong marines are being brought back from the U.S. Embassy because they allegedly are unable to withstand the charms of blonde spies."

"It is sometimes said that there are Reds 'under' every bed. Perhaps this saying should be amended somewhat?"